ALONG THE MOGOLLON RIM

the SITGREAVES National Forest WORKS FOR YOU!

NATIONAL FORESTS
Lands of many uses

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE
SOUTHWESTERN REGION

MULTIPLE USE MANAGEMENT

of your

SITGREAVES *National Forest*

provides

- RECREATION
- WATER
- WOOD
- FORAGE
- WILDLIFE

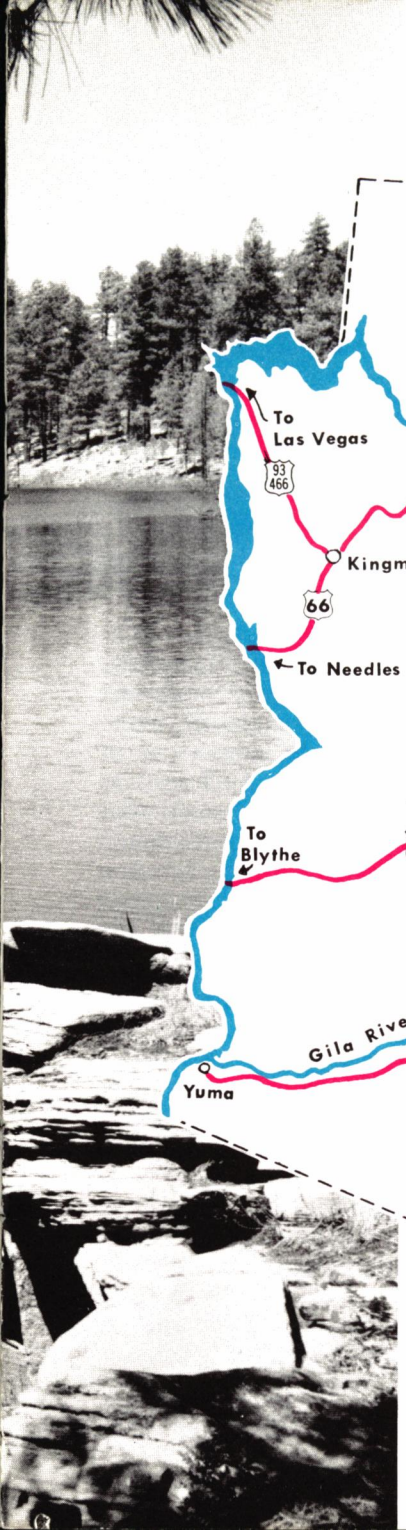
for

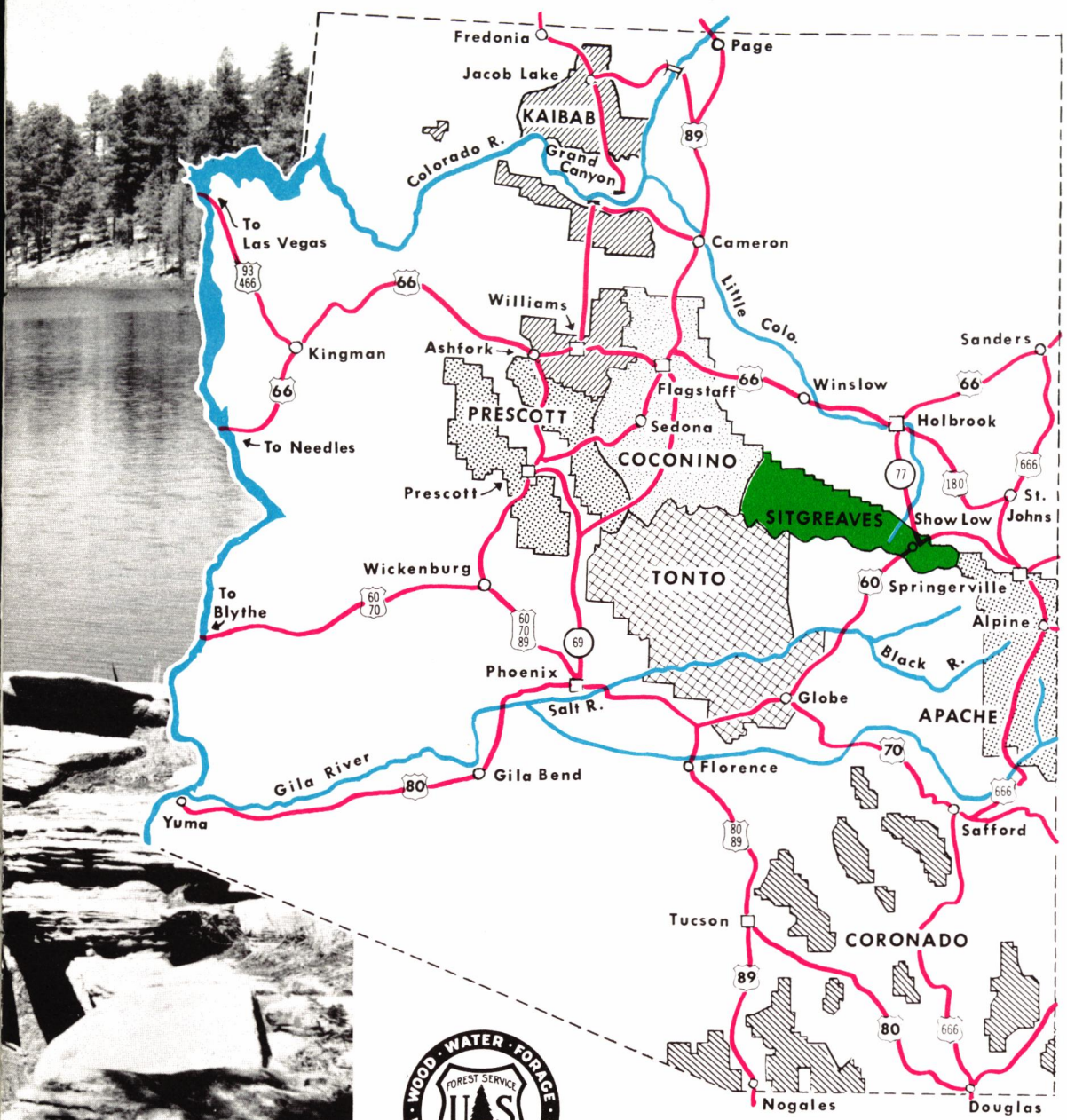
maximum overall

public benefit!

WOODS CANYON LAKE

NATIONAL FORESTS IN ARIZONA





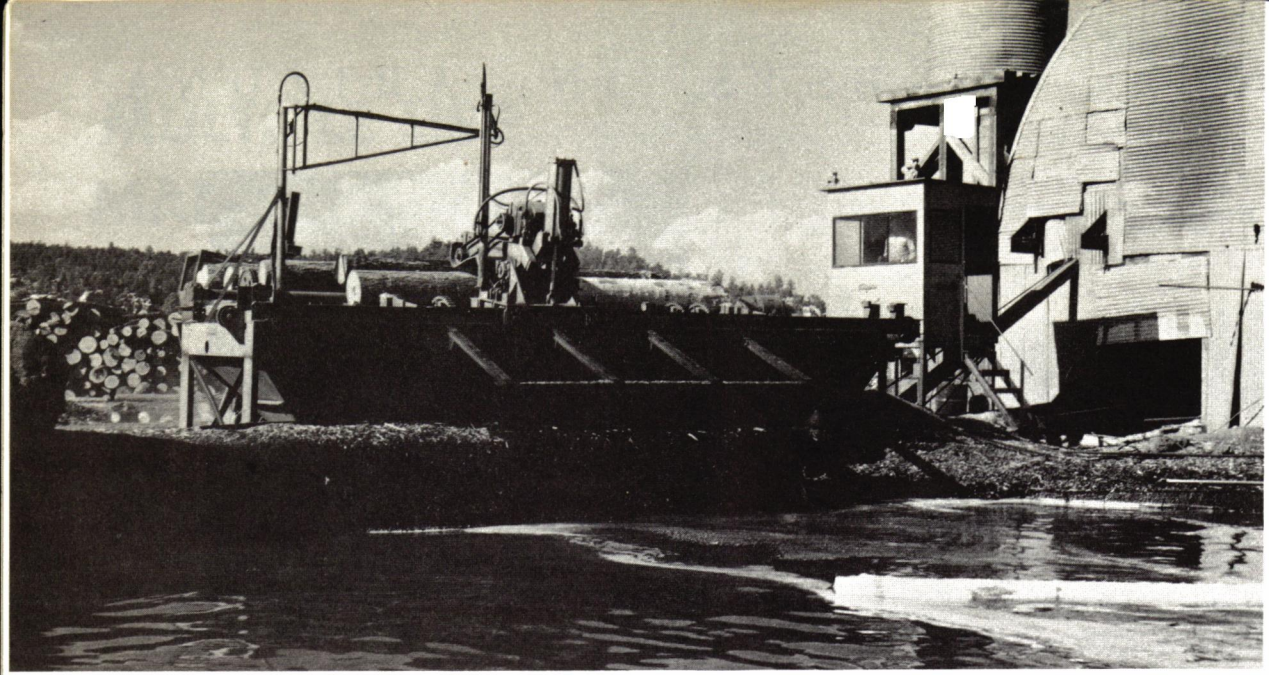
This brochure explains how the Sitgreaves National Forest is working for *you* and your fellow Americans — the owners of this valuable public property.

Ever since the creation of the Forest Service in 1905, its principal objective has been to manage the National Forests so as to provide the greatest good for the greatest number in the long run. The Multiple Use-Sustained Yield Act of 1960 now makes it mandatory that the water, recreation, timber, forage, wildlife and fish resources of the National Forests shall be managed so as to produce maximum overall public benefits.

The Sitgreaves National Forest is making, and will continue to make, important contributions to the economy and welfare of the citizens of the Southwest. You, as a stockholder in the Sitgreaves, may be assured that this National Forest will do its part in furthering the sound development and growth of our country.

Remember, you are always welcome on the Sitgreaves. All that the Forest Rangers and I ask is that you use care with fire and leave a clean camp. If you have any questions about the management of your National Forest, please let me know.

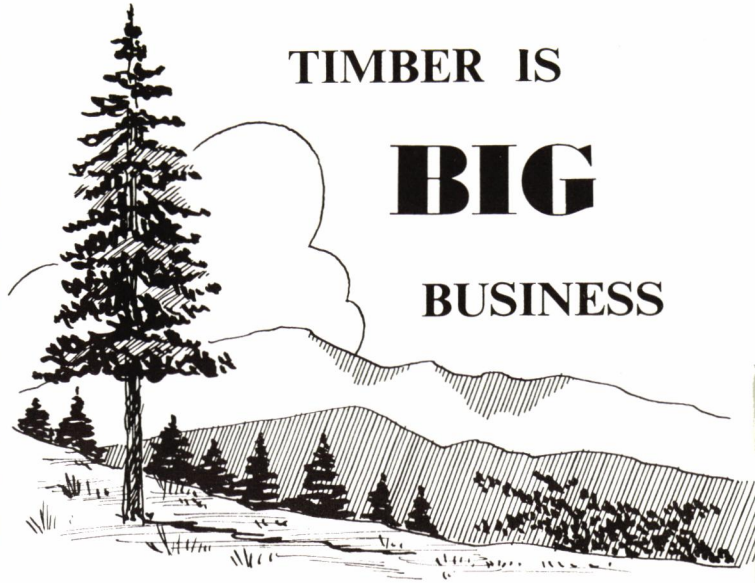
C. K. Spaulding
Forest Supervisor



Debarker and mill pond at Heber.

Another load of National Forest timber for a sawmill.

TIMBER IS BIG BUSINESS



The Sitgreaves National Forest has some of the finest ponderosa pine stands in the Southwest along with small amounts of Douglas fir, white fir, and spruce. The allowable annual cut of saw timber on the Sitgreaves is 56.2 million board feet which is the amount of sawtimber that can be harvested annually on a sustained yield basis so that there is a balance between growth and cut. Due to poor market conditions the past few years, actual cut has been less than the allowable cut.

Operation of the Southwest Forest Industries' pulpmill at Snowflake Mills, Arizona, is proving to be a stimulant to both the economy of Arizona and intensive forest management. The demand for pulpwood now makes it economically feasible to thin out the young, dense, overcrowded stands of trees which, in most cases, are in a stagnant condition because of lack of enough growing room. This practice furnishes raw material for the pulpmill and speeds up growth of the remaining crop trees. In addition, the fire hazard is reduced and the forest opened up to sunlight which stimulates growth of plants that provide food for wildlife and livestock. Thinning out trees also improves

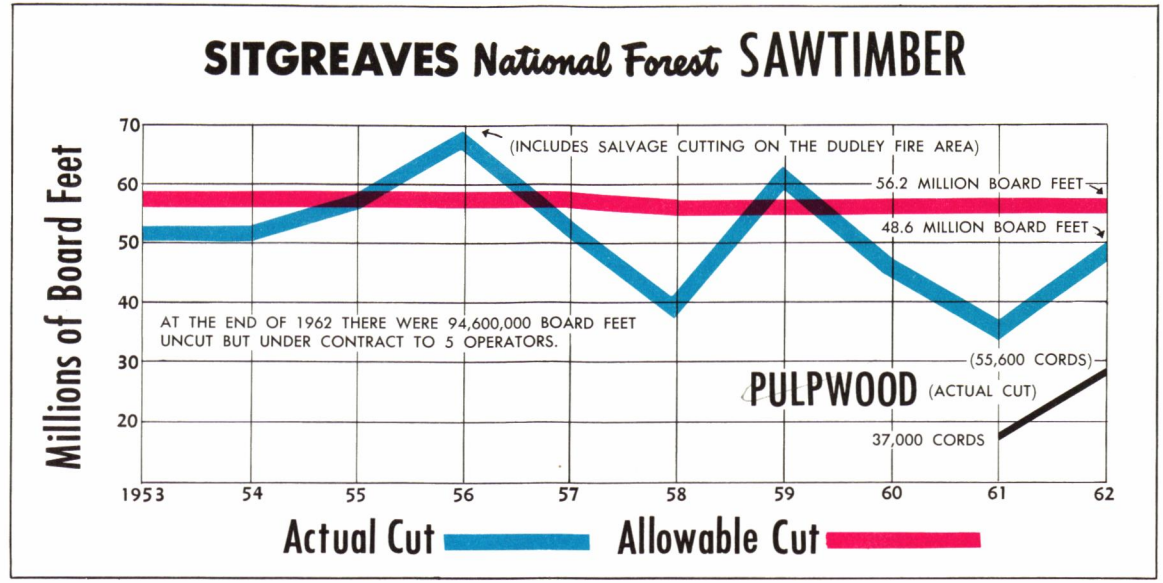
watershed conditions because it enables more snow and rain to reach the forest floor. What helps the timber resource also benefits the other National Forest resources and this is one example of how Multiple Use Management actually works out on the ground.

When timber is harvested, the resulting slash creates a fire hazard and is generally unsightly. To overcome this condition, National Forest timber sale contracts provide for a reasonable amount of piling and burning of slash, especially along roads heavily used by the public. Also, after spur or temporary roads on timber sale areas have served their purpose they are drained, seeded, and "put to bed." This practice helps to prevent soil erosion and furnishes supplemental feed for wildlife and livestock.

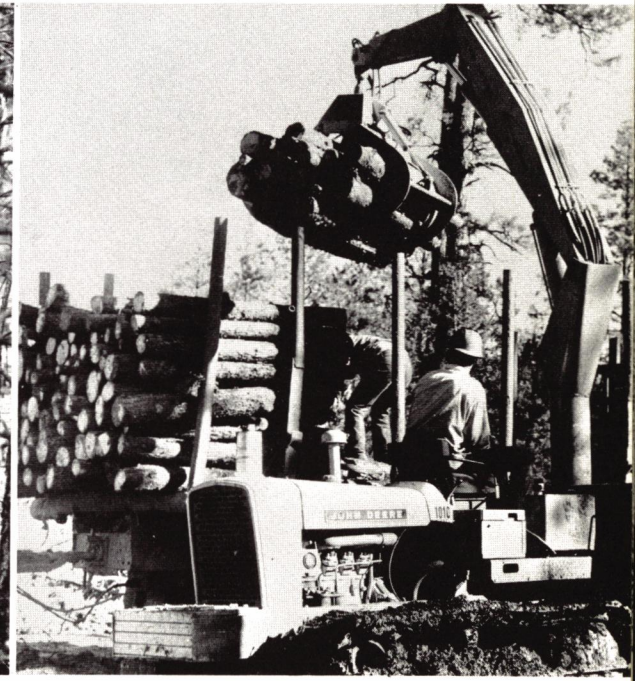
The harvest of timber on the Sitgreaves National Forest is vital to the economy of the towns of Winslow, Holbrook, Snowflake, Show Low, McNary and Heber. Five timber operators with over 94 million board feet of National Forest timber under contract employ 750 people and produce a variety of forest products from lumber to paper bags, making timber the most important business in the Sitgreaves area.

Sitgreaves National Forest personnel are working to increase the allowable cut by seeding or planting new trees in areas that have been burned over or are poorly stocked. In the past ten years, timber quality has been improved by the thinning of over 12,000 acres of timber stands and the pruning of almost 2 million crop trees. The Development Program for the Sitgreaves during the next decade provides for the thinning of an additional 95,000 acres and the reforestation of 6,000 acres. This work will aid in bringing the Sitgreaves' timber resource up to its full potential.

Yes, "Timber is Big Business" on the Sitgreaves and this resource will continue to pay a leading role in furthering the sound development and growth of communities dependent upon National Forest timber.



Thinning overcrowded stands releases crop trees for pulpwood and sawtimber.



Loading pulpwood for the haul to the mill.

The Sitgreaves receives snow and rain annually which produce 20 to 30 inches of water.

Melting snow on the Sitgreaves furnishes water for the valleys below.

WATER FOR THE VALLEY

Although the Sitgreaves has few permanent streams, it is an important water producer. The pine belt on the Forest receives from 20 to 30 inches of water annually in the form of snow and rain which is vital for the growth of trees, forage, wildlife, and forest recreation. In addition to providing water for the Little Colorado River, the Sitgreaves regenerates large underground basins from which emerge many major springs below the Mogollon Rim to flow south into the Salt River Valley.

A healthy watershed is one on which the soil is held in place by a good protective cover of grasses, shrubs, and trees. Where activities of nature or man destroy this cover, the Forest Service objective is to correct unsatisfactory conditions immediately. Prompt seeding of grasses and planting of trees helps to prevent, or minimize erosion and transforms many of the burned acres into productive land again.

In 1962, about 165 miles of old spur roads and skid trails were drained, seeded, and "put to bed." This practice holds the soil in place and at the same time furnishes supplemental food for wildlife and livestock. A big watershed rehabilitation job lies ahead on the Sitgreaves and during the next ten years it is planned to do 30 miles of gully stabilization work, 25,000 acres of sheet erosion control, and 160 miles of erosion control on abandoned roads and trails.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT PROVIDES ANOTHER CROP FOR HARVEST

The Sitgreaves National Forest provides food and homes for a wide variety of wildlife and fish. By law, the Forest Service is responsible for the management of the land, or habitat, on the National Forest, and the Arizona Game and Fish Department is charged with the protection and management of the fish, birds, and game animals. Both agencies work closely together because wildlife is a crop and as such must be harvested in order to keep a balance between the animals and their food supply.

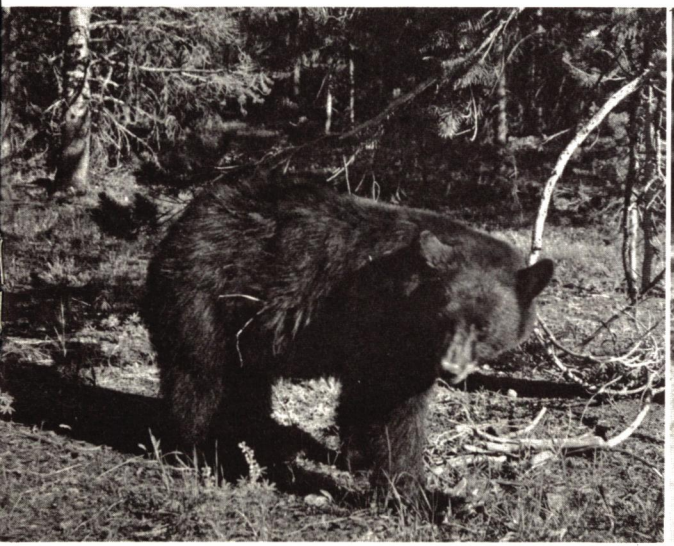
Careful studies by State and Forest Service biologists over a period of several years showed that some of the game ranges on the Sitgreaves did not have sufficient feed for the elk and deer populations. Accordingly, special permit hunts for "any deer" or "any elk" have been used in the past few years to help achieve a better balance between available forage and the game animals. The results have been encouraging but there are areas remaining which have not recovered from over-use in the past by both wildlife and sheep. This is true especially on the deer and elk winter ranges.

Recently, the Arizona Game and Fish Department has done a considerable amount of exploratory work on the Sitgreaves directed towards the creation of additional fishing lakes in the Mogollon Rim country. Construction has already begun on Knoll Lake in East Leonard Canyon which is the boundary line between the Sitgreaves and Coconino National Forests. In addition, the State has made preliminary excavations and obtained water rights for the proposed Bear, Black Canyon, and Pinedale Lakes on the Sitgreaves.

The Arizona Game and Fish Department builds the dams and does the necessary clearing of the lake sites under National Forest special use permit. Construction of recreation facilities at the lakes is a Forest Service responsibility.

In 1962, four springs were developed and invading trees removed from three openings or meadows so as to maintain them in their natural state. Other additional wildlife habitat improvement work included the removal of competing pinyon-juniper trees from four areas supporting good browse forage. In addition, these sites were fenced and seeded to species beneficial to wildlife.

There is a big job of wildlife habitat improvement work remaining to be done on the Sitgreaves in the next 10 years and plans provide for 15,000 acres of food and cover planting, 2,600 acres of wildlife openings, 105 acres of lake development, and 4 miles of stream improvement.

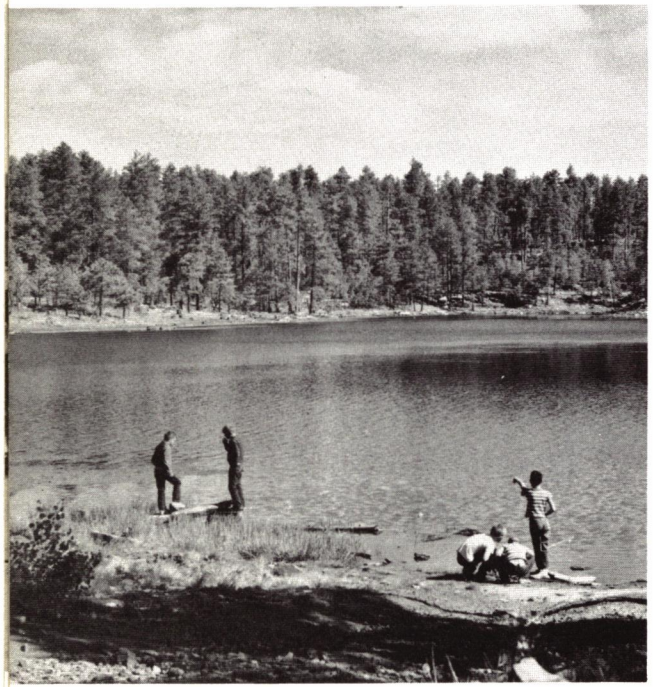


Black bear furnishes sport for hunters.

A wild turkey near the Mogollon Rim.

Rocky Mountain mule deer are the most popular game on the Sitgreaves.

Camping is fun on the Sitgreaves.



Fishing is tops at Woods Canyon Lake.

OUTDOOR RECREATION

Outdoor recreation continues to be the most popular and fastest growing use on the Sitgreaves National Forest where recreation visits have climbed from 15,000 in 1952 to over 173,000 in 1962. This valuable National Forest use is also helping to boost the economy of the Sitgreaves area.

To take care of these visitors, the Forest Service has spent over $100,000 the past few years on family units for camping and picnicking plus the installation of boat ramps and parking areas. A large portion of this expenditure was made at scenic Woods Canyon Lake Campground where a water system has been installed, parking areas constructed, and 40 family units and sanitation facilities are in place. A new campground is being completed at the Lake which will also provide accommodations for house trailers.

By 1972, it is conservatively estimated that the Sitgreaves will receive 450,000 recreation visits a year. To adequately meet public recreation needs during the next ten years will require an additional 600 family units, water systems, sanitary facilities, boat ramps, many miles of roads, and parking areas. The long-range Development Program for the Sitgreaves estimates the cost of this work to be $2,750,000.

THE NATIONAL FORESTS

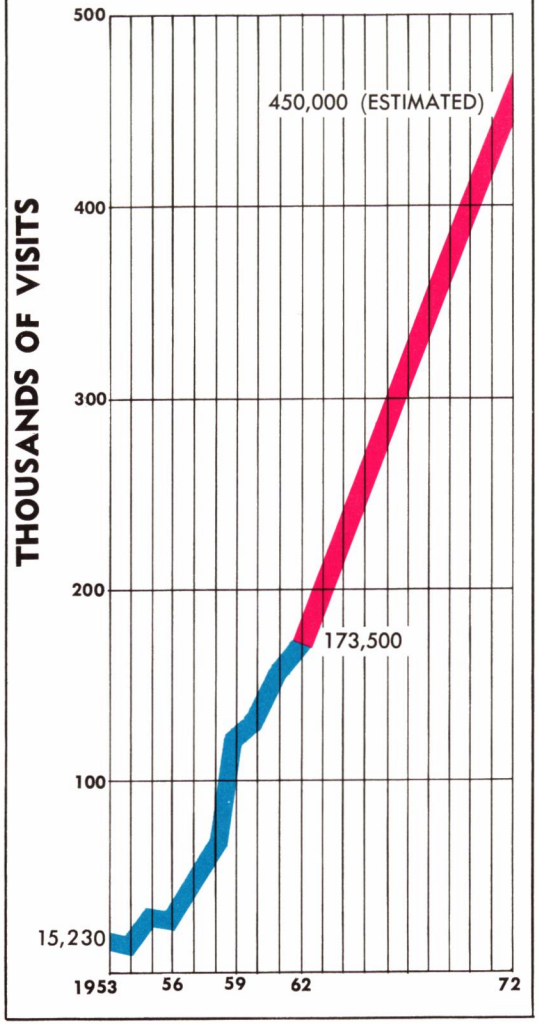
America's Playgrounds

SITGREAVES National Forest

Recreation Visits

Actual Visits

Projected Visits



RANGE

The grazing of cattle and sheep is another use of the Sitgreaves National Forest. Forage produced on the Sitgreaves in 1962 was converted by 4,500 cattle and 14,500 sheep into 1,114,000 pounds of beef and 986,000 pounds of lamb. These animals grazed under paid permits held by 81 local ranchers.

The Forest Service objective in range management is maximum sustained forage production consistent with stable watersheds. Complete analyses are being made of the 46 range allotments on this National Forest to provide the basis for sound management and proper stocking. Each analysis provides information on existing range condition and potential forage production of the particular allotment. From this data, a plan incorporating intensive management systems is prepared in cooperation with the grazing permittee. The plan also outlines the improvements needed such as fences, stock waters, and seeding. Intensive management systems embodying the principles of rest and deferment through rotation grazing are comparatively new to the Sitgreaves but acceptance by permittees has been good. On-the-ground benefits are rapidly becoming apparent.

The Sitgreaves continues to move ahead with its plan to bring every range allotment up to its full production potential. In 1962, juniper control was done on 2,814 acres, 7 miles of fence constructed, and one well sunk. During the next ten years, it is planned to seed 14,000 acres of rangeland, build 227 miles of fence, and install 110 new water developments.

Sheep graze the Sitgreaves in the summer.

Good grass growth after juniper control.

The man-caused Dudley Fire of 1956 burned over 18,000 acres of prime timber land.

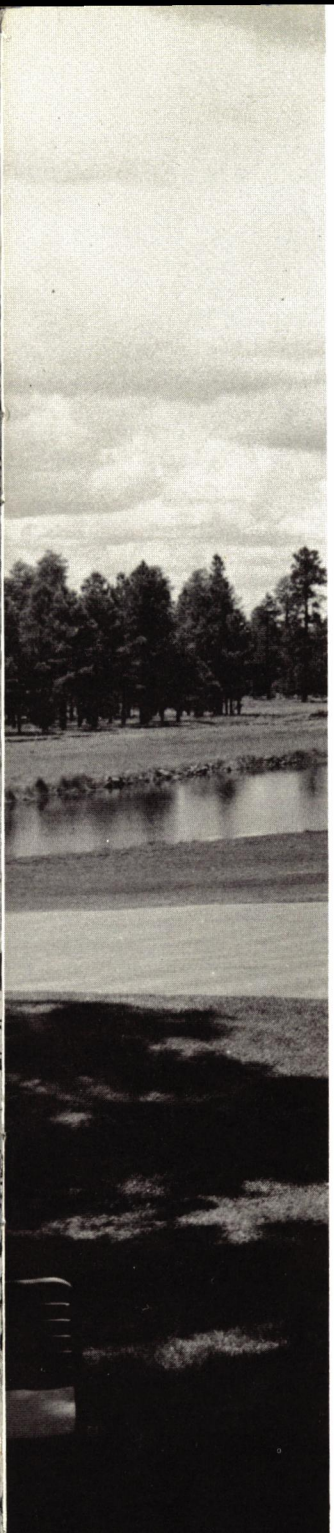
FIRE

Lightning and man-caused fires continue to be an ever-constant threat to the resources of the Sitgreaves National Forest. In 1962, there were 249 fires which burned over 290 acres and the cost to bring them under control was $63,000.00. Lightning fires cannot be prevented but the 35 man-caused ones that occurred could have been if every forest user had been careful with fire. Quick detection of the fires and speedy control by our cooperators and Forest Service crews enabled us to keep total acreage burned to a relatively small amount.

The Sitgreaves is intensifying both its prevention and fire control efforts in every way possible. Large scale fire hazard reduction measures are being taken in the vicinity of heavily populated areas like Lakeside and Pinetop. Dense stands of pine are thinned and pruned, snags are felled, and accumulations of dry fuels are removed. In 1962, construction of an aerial tanker base at the Winslow Airport was completed and put into operation. This base provides storage for 100 tons of dry bentonite which is sufficient to produce 200,000 gallons of slurry, which is a mixture of bentonite clay and water which is dropped as a retardant to slow the spread and cool the fire, giving ground crews a chance to construct fire lines. The base is equipped to service approximately 10 tanker planes an hour.

The Sitgreaves appreciates the fine cooperation which the local newspapers, radio stations, schools, businessmen, permittees, sportsmen, and loggers give the fire prevention program each year. Your continued support is essential if man-caused fires on the Sitgreaves are to be kept to the very minimum.

The colorful Sitgreaves National Forest auto decal sticker (shown below) is yours for the asking and can be obtained at the Forest Supervisor's office, Owen Federal Building, Holbrook, or at the District Forest Rangers' offices in Lakeside, Pinedale, Heber, and Winslow. An attractive 4-color recreation folder map of the Sitgreaves National Forest and the new Hunter's Map for the Chevelon-Heber area are also available at these locations.



SPECIAL USES

Summer homes, 156 miles of high-voltage power lines, an 18-hole golf course, 63 miles of telephone lines, and 11 miles of gas lines, are only a few of the many land uses covered by special-use permits on the Sitgreaves National Forest.

Being located near the center of the Colorado Plateau makes the Sitgreaves subject to many demands for special uses on National Forest land, particularly power lines from the Four Corners area to the population centers of the Salt River Valley. Each application for a special use permit is carefully examined to make sure that the use proposed is an appropriate one on public lands and that it will not have a harmful effect on other National Forest resources. This type of coordination is the key to successful Multiple Use Management.

ACCELERATED PUBLIC WORKS PROGRAM

The purpose of this Program, which was signed into law by President Kennedy in September of 1962, is to provide jobs for the unemployed and under-employed in labor surplus areas by initiating and stepping up local, state, and Federal Public Works Projects. The Program is administered by the Area Redevelopment Administration of the U. S. Department of Commerce which allotted $145,000 to the Sitgreaves National Forest last November for projects in Navajo County. At that time, 70 men were secured through the Arizona State Employment Service and immediately put to work on planned projects including the construction of crew quarters at the Pinedale Ranger Station, an office at the Lakeside Ranger Station, and a dwelling in Snowflake. In addition, an intensive thinning and fire hazard reduction job was undertaken in the Pinetop and Pinedale areas.

This program, which will continue until June 30, 1963, is providing worthwhile employment and is enabling the Forest Service to improve the management and development of the Sitgreaves National Forest.

ROADS AND TRAILS

In order to develop the resources of the Sitgreaves National Forest to their full potential, an adequate system of roads and trails is a *must!* Without well designed, properly drained roads, forest fire control would be difficult; outdoor recreation opportunities limited; timber could not be harvested; construction and servicing of telephone and power lines would be hampered; and other essential public uses curtailed.

At present, there are 360 miles of roads on the Sitgreaves which are maintained by Forest Service, County, and State crews.

In the next decade, plans provide for the construction of:

44 miles of recreation roads.

109 miles of timber access roads.

95 miles of timber-purchaser-built roads.

63 miles of multi-purpose roads.

When a timber purchaser is required as part of his sale contract to build roads on the National Forest, the estimated cost of the road construction is deducted from the price which the purchaser pays the Forest Service for the timber.

In addition to roads, it is planned to construct 26 miles of trails in the next ten years for those folks who like to hike or ride horseback. One trail will follow along the Mogollon Rim which offers tremendous views of the vast Tonto Basin. Another will lead down into Chevelon Canyon with its rugged scenery and fine fishing waters.

SUMMARY

On the preceding pages, we have given you a picture of current activities on the Sitgreaves National Forest and a look into the future. The Sitgreaves will continue to provide jobs for many people in addition to making cash payments to those counties in which the National Forest is located. By law, 25% of all National Forest receipts are returned to the counties for use on schools and roads. The sale of National Forest timber accounts for the largest portion of the receipts, but significant amounts also accrue from grazing permits and payments for land uses.

Sitgreaves National Forest payments to counties for Fiscal Year 1962 amounted to $54,632.16 distributed as follows:

Apache County	— 3,186.48
Coconino County	— 18,194.59
Navajo County	— 33,251.09

In addition to the above, the Sitgreaves turned over $13,286.16 to Arizona's Common School Fund.

Each year, the American people are making increasing demands on their National Forests. With your continued understanding and support the Sitgreaves National Forest can make even greater contributions to public welfare in the future than it has in the past.

THE NATIONAL FORESTS ... *Lands of Many Uses*